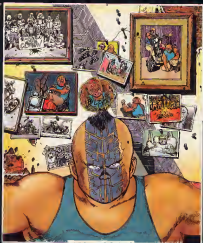


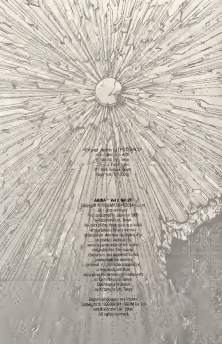
AKIRA

24

THE COMICS OF SHINJI YAMAGUCHI AND KATSUHIRO OTOMO



KATSUHIRO OTOMO



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Printed in the United States of America
ISBN 0-07-000000-0
This book is printed on acid-free paper.

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WHAT HAS GONE BEFORE



Twenty-three. The world hovers on the brink of World War IV in a section of Neo-Tokyo known as the "old city"—where, thirty-eight years before the destruction of World War II began—a band of teenage delinquents led by Kaneda encounter **Number 28**—a child named **Tetsuo** who uses extraordinary telekinetic abilities to injure **Tetsuo**, one of Kaneda's close friends.

As a result, Kaneda and

Tetsuo become entangled in a power struggle between a mysterious military and scientific organization led by the **Colonel** and an underground resistance group bent on putting a stop to the Colonel's activities. Members of the resistance include **Kay**, **Ryu**, and a formidable woman named **Chiyoko**. Among their superiors is the blind **Lady Miyako**—a powerful religious leader with strong prescient gifts.

The **Colonel** has a number of psychic children under his control. **Takaishi**, **Kiyoko**, and **Masaru** are identified by numbers marked on their foreheads. **Lady Miyako** was, at one time, **Number 15**. **Number 28** is **Akira**, so powerful that since the war he has been sequestered in cryogenic sleep.

The Colonel's staff conducts experiments which awaken tremendous telepathic potential in **Tetsuo**, who is reborned **Number 41**. **Tetsuo** is able to strip off the most serious injuries. He goes on a killing spree, even attacking Kaneda. Followed by **Kay** and Kaneda, **Tetsuo** seeks out **Akira**, whose powers he fears may rival his own. In his mission, Akira's power responds to Tetsuo's psychic energy. When **Tetsuo** reaches Akira's testing place, the



Kaneda



The Colonel



Lady Miyako



Masaru



cryogenic chamber cracks from within. **Akira** emerges, dazed and disoriented following his long sleep.

The **Colonel** summons the powerful **SOL** military satellite and orders that its laser cannon be fired at **Tetsuo** and **Akira**. The two are separated by the blast. **Akira** is saved by **Kay** and **Kaneda**, but the laser strikes **Tetsuo's** left arm.

Afterward, **Neo-Tokyo** is placed in a state of military emergency with "canestaker robots" patrolling the street and keeping order.

Akira and the resistance fighters are cornered by the Colonel's troops, but all seems well when **Takashi** fondly greets **Akira**. Then **Nezu**, a former resistance leader who has betrayed his own side, orders He tries to kill **Akira**, but kills **Takashi** instead.

The townsfolk of **Tokyo's** death galvanizes **Akira**. He fully

awakens and unleashes a light blast powerful enough to devastate the entire city. **Misara** and **Kiyoko** sweep most of the people in the area upward. **Kaneda** is last seen vanishing toward the sky. Afterwards, **Lady Miyako** opens her temple and offers shelter and comfort to those in need, gathering large groups of followers in the East.

Neo-Tokyo is completely cut off from the outside world. In the western part of the city the **Great Tokyo Empire** is formed—a monarchy with **Akira** as the figurehead and **Tetsuo** as his prime minister. Together they put their powers, heading the pack, working control of the faithful and organizing their subjects into fighting units that destroy criminal schools and conquer military and medical relief parties sent from the outside.



Tetsuo



Kan



Tetsuo's Rider



Lt. Yamada

world. The **Empire** is eventually infiltrated by teams of spies from the outside.

Masara and **Kiyoko** are sick with withdrawal from the drug which augments and clove's mental powers, and when **Kiyoko**—whose powers are prognosticative, tell **Kay** to find **Number 13**. **Lady Miyoko** also that **Kay** bring other psychics to her when they are well.

Tetsuo men kill most of the spies from the outside, but their leader, **Li Yamada**, escapes when **Ryu** leads him into the safety of an underground shelter. **Yamada** refuses to tell **Ryu** who has sent him. His clues, however, reveal that Russia has conquered part of Japan, and that the Americans, fear of **Alito** makes them reluctant to get involved.

Tetsuo loses an eye of sex and drugs on several young girls, only one of whom—**Rae**—survives. Afterwards, **Tetsuo** looks into **Alito**'s mind. He emerges a terrified wreck. When he recovers, he decides that **Lady Miyoko** may be able to explain cures to him. Taking a dose of power enhancing medication, **Tetsuo** teleports to the temple of the religious leader, **Lady Miyoko** warns **Tetsuo** that he alone can control **Alito**'s near incalculable powers, but that he must first

overcome his dependency on drugs. Degraded and panicked, **Tetsuo** returns to his stronghold. There he neglects his duties of state, concentrating instead on trying to kick the habit.

Kay and **Chiyoko** try to rescue **Masara** and **Kiyoko** to Lady Miyoko's temple, but are attacked by **Tetsuo**'s followers, who escape with **Kiyoko**. **Chiyoko** rescues the girl, but is badly wounded. The two are brought to safety by the **Colonel**, who has been living in isolation. **Chiyoko**, delirious, tells the **Colonel** to take **Kiyoko** to the temple, where he'll also find **Masara**. Meanwhile, **Kay** safely conveys **Masara** to the temple.

Ryu and **Li Yamada** watch the **Empire** from hiding. When **Tetsuo**'s deeper leucism—degraded by **Tetsuo**'s lack of interest in the way **Lady Miyoko** has thwarted their schemes—leads most of the **Empire** men out as an army, **Ryu** and **Yamada** move in. They are startled by an encounter with **Tetsuo**, his power surging empirically from withdrawal. **Ryu** is even more startled when **Tetsuo** blurts out what his telepathy has shown him—that **Yamada** has come to assassinate **Alito**.

Tetsuo's lieutenant leads his



Kiyoko



Kiyoko



Ryu



Kay



army to Lady Miyako's temple and they slaughter all in their path—monks, peasants and hapless refugees alike. They are, however, thwarted by the power of Lady Miyako's psychically gifted monks and defeated when **Kay** captures their leader. **Lady Miyako** refuses to permit the execution of her enemies. Tetsuo's men desert, slave, bitterly swearing revenge. They return an hour later hungry for blood and victory.

Kay, along with **Kai**, one of the surviving members of Kaneda's old gang—urges **Lady Miyako** to fire before it's too late. The religious leader refuses so the three board Lady Miyako's private elevator with **Misawa** and depart for the temple's tower to make a last stand.

The **Colonel** arrives outside the temple with **Kiyoko**. He is wounded by some of the Empire's men, but is rescued by a soldier firmly under his

command. The **Colonel** reveals his possession of a remote control laser gun that enables him to fire blasts from the SSR military satellite.

Lady Miyako's elevator reaches the tower. The door opens to reveal **Tetsuo**, now blind, and undergoing severe physical trauma from drug withdrawal.

Though physical symptoms subside in an explosive leap forward that annihilates men for his devastation of **Hiro-Tokyo**. During this mayhem **Kaneda** reappears, as if from nowhere.

Tetsuo hallucinates wildly, expounding recollections of his parents and his early childhood. He is humbled by a vision of the double helix spiral that **Akira** constantly creates when he plays. Only **Kaneda** is there to see **Tetsuo** return to the seat of the **Great Tokyo Empire** and bow down to his young lord.

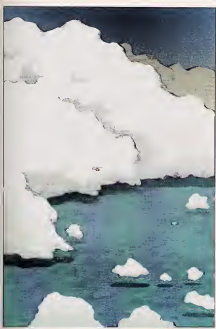


Akira

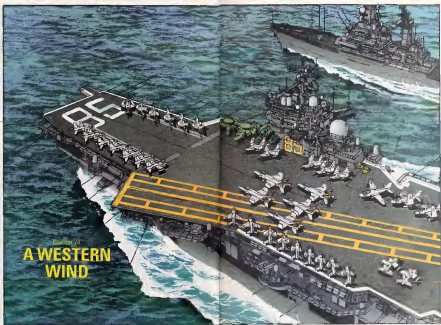
Shogeki

Jishi

Sora



Reading 21
**A WESTERN
WIND**







IMPERFECT DISPLAY -
TODAY WILL
ONLY
IMPROVE THE SAME
SCENARIO.

IF THE AMMUNITION
THROWER, THE FIRST
THE FIRM OF HUNG
HUNG HUNG AS
TEACHERS, OR
EVEN HUNG.

I KNOW HOW HOW
SHOULD JUST HAVE
FOOT.

YOU ARE US COUNT BUILT
IF ONLY WE DON'T WANT
DOUGHTING

IF THE MILITARY HAD LISTENED TO US
AS THE FIRST PLACE, THERE WOULD
HAVE BEEN COME TO THIS WAY.

I FEEL THE
HANGING

KEEP
OUT

THE IMPORTANT THING
IS THAT YOU'RE HERE
WALK THERE'S STILL
TIME..

BECAUSE THE ALTON
HAS BEEN PUSHED



THE PRESIDENT HAS
DETERMINED WE'RE YOUR
DECISION IS ON THROUGH
YOUR POWERS.

TO THE PRESIDENT
SOLUTION FOR THE
ARRANGEMENTS OF
THE YEAR 2000 I
APPROVE YOUR
VISIONS AND
YOUR COURAGE



I APPRECIATE
THAT. I'M NOT
A SOLDIER, BUT
IT'S OBVIOUS
THAT THIS GUY
AND WOMAN.

WELL, MY FRIEND
AND I WOULD LOVE
AND WE BOTH WOULD
SOMEONE ELSE
WILLING TO TAKE THE
RISK AFTER



PLEASE THANK YOUR
PRESIDENT AND LISTENING
TO YOU DON'T WORRY.
AMERICAN APPROVED
THE "TRUTH" OF ALL
PROBLEMS.



I RECALL THE SERVICE IN
THE ARMY THAT FROM
BIG ARMY TRAINING
FOR TO THE TO BE
FOR TO THE LARGEST
THAT AND INTRODUCED
WAS TO THE ARMY

I'D
LIKE
THAT

I WOULD LOVE TO
SEE YOUR SERVICE
LET ME KNOW IF THE ARMY
ANYTHING ELSE
THAT WOULD BE
HELP



KEEPED THE AREA

SHOOM

CLAMPS

DOCTORS!

That way,

KEEP
OUT

KEEP
OUT





CALL
THE
REPORT



BEFORE WE EXAMINE THE HOW
OF THIS CASE, PERHAPS IT WAS
BETTER TO ASK WHAT WE WERE
AND OUR OWN REASONS TO
CONSIDER IT TO BE.



A GOOD OLD FASHIONED
DON'T YOU THINK THAT
PROTEST SHOULD HAVE
A NAME?



I COULD PROVIDE
A LIST OF NAMES
TO GO TO.

NAME?



WHAT ABOUT ANOTHER
ALIAS, THE LIES OF
THE A?

DR. JAMES L. A. ... AND THE
LIES OF THE A-DE COUSE.
NAME, I ASKED YOU.



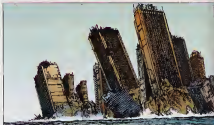
AWOOH!

YEAH GOOD!

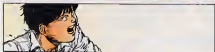
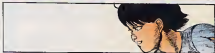


EVERYONE A BIT
TOO BATTLE
LIKE IT?

YEAH IT'S BUILT!







FINAL!!



I'VE BEEN SO
HAPPY ABOUT
YOU! (SOS-0015)

















YOU INCLUDE ALL AVAILABLE
DATA ABOUT THE RECENT
COLLAPSE OF NUCLEAR
REACTOR THE RECENT
EVENT MATERIALS BROUGHT
FROM THE U.S. BY
IN DISCOVERY.



KEEP IN MIND THAT
THE REACTOR
WAS
IN
THE
REACTOR.



THE REACTOR WERE
ARE FROM THE TALL
JEWEL REACTOR, THE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE

KEEP
OUT



DISCOVERED IT
IN THE REACTOR
IN THE REACTOR
IN THE REACTOR
IN THE REACTOR
IN THE REACTOR



IN THE REACTOR
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE

AND THIS...

IS A PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE REACTOR
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE
REACTOR WERE



IT SHOWS AN APPROXIMATE
REACTOR WERE

WE ALSO HAVE
COMPLIMENTARY
ON-BRANDING REGISTRATION,
AND CAN DESIGN
SECURITY MARKS
PROTECTING
YOUR CALLING CARD
IN PRINT...







NUMBER 22, 23, 24, 27
28 AND 29 OF 1997
FROM BAKER'S BURNING
ACQUIRED DURING THE
TREATMENT, NUMBER
24, 25 AND 26.



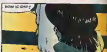
... WERE STILL
IN THE GREAT
LIE AT THE
TIME OF
THE 1997
RECORDING WITH
THE ONLY USE OF
THE 1997, THEY
WERE LOST
AS A RESULT.



NUMBER 22 IS
SUSPECTED TO HAVE
BURNED DURING
THE 1997, 24, 25...



THE 1997
WAS LOST DURING
THE 1997, 24, 25
DURING THE
TREATMENT, 24,
25 AND 26.







PLEASE
WAIT
HERE.



IT WILL BE DIFFICULT
TO GET AWAY FROM YOU
WITHOUT A STRONG
LETTER. THEN
WE WON'T
THE YOUR
WILL

...



DID YOU HEAR WHAT
HE SAID? IT MEANS
I'M NOT HERE
FOR A LONG TIME
ANYMORE



I WON'T LET YOU



WHAT MATTER IS
THAT? I AM NOT
AND YOU WILL
TELL ME WHERE
YOU'RE FROM
HERE

THAT'S RIGHT



THEN YOU BE IN
FOR A LONG TIME
I WILL





I'M
READING
AROUND
IT



YOU AND THE
ONE WHO KILLED
THE SHADE
WARRIOR



IT'S BEEN YEARS
NO ONE KNOWS
WHO KILLED ME
LIZ



AND I'M NOT
TALKING ABOUT
IT YET

I'M JUST
WORRYING ABOUT
MYSELF



I'M JUST
WORRYING ABOUT
MYSELF







"THAT THEY
GET TO THE
OFFICE TODAY
LATER."

"HE SHOULD
STAY AND
WATCH AND
OUT ROAD."



"WHAT COULD BE
THE END - JAMES?"



"DON'T YOU
KNOW? IT
IS A THE FIRST
SUSPECTED
IN OFFICE."

"LET NO
ONE KNOW
ABOUT THIS
OFFICE."

ZIP



"I THINK HE'S LEFT A
FOUR-LEAD."

"IT IS TIME TO
LEAVE A MESSAGE
TODAY CALL THE
THEIR OFFICE."



"... BUT ..."

"THERE'S
THE SUN AND
THEY'RE
THE OFFICE."



"DON'T YOU
KNOW? IT
IS A THE FIRST
SUSPECTED
IN OFFICE."

"AND FROM THE
OFFICE OF THE
OFFICE OFFICE
IS A REAL IS
THE OFFICE."







HEY!
WHERE ARE YOU
GOING?

AWAY
FROM THE PEOPLE
FOLLOWING ME.



WHAT IS THE
STORY BEHIND
THIS?



STORIES OF
THE OLD CHURCH
WAS
SAYING



GO AWAY! YOU'VE
THE LAST BLOOD
THAT THE OLD
AND THE NEW.



1



THEY'VE
PLACED
THE OLD
AND THE NEW
IN THE
MIDDLE
OF THE
ROAD
AND THE
NEW
PEOPLE
WILL
BE
GOING
HERE
TO
SEE
IT.

LOT OF CROWDS COME
EARTHQUAKE? PEOPLE
THINK FOOD BEING
GIVE OF \$50, 100 IN 10
MINUTES

PEOPLE WANTING TO
TRASH BEEN CALLED
LOT OF \$50 BEING
GIVEN OUT

PEOPLE WANTING TO
TRADE NEED QUALIFIED
LOT OF CASH, PROOF
OF CREDIT

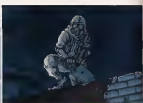
THREE ENGLAND WOMEN
KIPPED OFF SPIN WITH
NOT BOND OF THEM
A WHOLE BLACK
BUTT 100000000
PUT AROUND THE
SPIN

THESE RESULTS

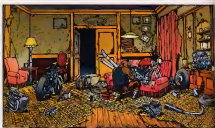
IN REAL, WERE ON
THE GROUND. AND AN
OVER STONE. THE
THE OF NIGHT.

YOU FEEL.







AAH-CROO!



AFTER I GOT
ARRANGED, THEY
PUT THE BATS
IN THE SAME
ROOM AT
THE
END OF THE
REAR OF THE
BUILDING.



WHEN THE CITY
WAS ABANDONED,
I WALKED INTO
THE END OF THE
REAR THERE.



IF HE
WASN'T DEAD
ALREADY.



SURELY WHEN
HE WAS DEAD,
THE BATS WOULD
NOT BE IN THE
ROOM, WOULD THEY?



WELL... WE
WAS THE
THINGS
WITH EACH
OTHER
IN THE
PAST.

... BUT WE
WAS IN
SHOULD BE
TOGETHER.



THAT'S IT.



YES.

AND WE
WAS TO
GET
TOGETHER.













3 CLAMPS

FLIP

A FLIPPING
MACHINE!

WHERE DID
YOU GET IT?

I FOUND IT IN
A TOP SECRET
MILITARY
TOOL.

OH, FOUND IT
UNDERGROUND.

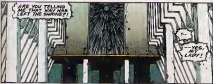
IT WAS
JUST WIND.

IT'S ALL CORRUPT
TOGETHER WITH
MACHINE FLIPS
AND CRASHES!

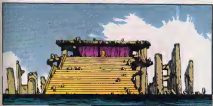
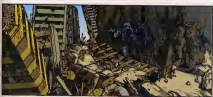
I GOT
THESE COOL
MACHINES

THE
MACHINE
IS ALIVE!

THESE ARE THE
TANKS OF THE
FUTURE. BUT
THEY ARE
NOT THE
FUTURE. THEY
ARE THE
PAST. NOT
COMPLETE.







MASTER TETUDDO!



MASTER TETUDDO!





NEXT ISSUE: VISION UNDERGROUND

AKIRA: the movie AN UPDATE

The English-language version of the animated film *AKIRA* will play in the following cities during the months of September and October

BROOKLINE, MA (BOSTON AREA)

COOLIDGE CORNER THEATER

September 3—open ended

KEENE, NH

PUTNAM SCREENING ROOM

September 7—September 8

BALTIMORE, MD

BALTIMORE FILM FORUM, BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

September 13—14

WICHITA, KS

AMLL THEATER

September 15 only

WATERVILLE, ME

RAILROAD SQUARE CINEMA

September 14—20

NORTHHAMPTON, MA

PLEASANT STREET THEATER

September 19—26

BUFFALO, NY

CAPRI THEATER

September 21—27

ANN ARBOR, MI

MICHIGAN THEATER

September 28—30

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

IRVING THEATER

September 28—October 4

LONDON, ENGLAND

SCALA CINEMA

September 22 only

NEW YORK, NY

THE NEW YORK FILM FORUM

October 10—November 1

Also in October, *AKIRA* is opening in Toronto at the Paradise Theater and in Ottawa at the Bytowne Theater

KATSUHIKO OTOMO

director

KAZUMITSU SUZUKI

senior production designer

**MASATO OHIBANO
SATESHI TAKAHATAKI**

production office

SHINJI MIYATA

director of photography

AKIRA SAITO

production secretary

Kazuhiko Imai

YOKO UMEKAWA

production

KENJI YUKI

HIROAKA HIRATAKE

editor

YUKA ABE

computer graphics

YOSHIO OKAZAKI

animation director

Epic Comics

JO DUFFY

script supervisor

STEVE BLIFF

with the

OLYMPIC COMPUTER CREW

Chicago

MICHAEL HIGGINS

producer

STEVE ALEXANDER

production

MARY IRVING

production office

MARGARET CLARK

script

CARL POTTIS

production office

The Thief's Quarter of Neo-Tokyo becomes the backdrop for Kaneda to forge new unions with old friends... and old enemies. The cold light of an early dawn sets the stage for an uneasy alliance between Ray and the Colonel. And the mighty war-mechanism of the superpowers are the setting for a meeting of the world's most brilliant minds... men and women united in a desperate effort to understand the mystery and power of Akira... while a world still remains in which to understand anything at all.

KATSUHIRO OTOMO'S

AKIRA

